

News Release

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Santa Rosa County

4-H Club Exhibits - Teamwork and Fun

Fairs and festivals are exciting times for 4-H Clubs and members. They provide 4-H members the opportunity to develop teamwork skills and to show the community what their club does. Putting together a 4-H club exhibit requires a lot of planning, imagination and hard work.

4-H club exhibits provide educational opportunities for both the club members and the thousands of people who view the exhibits. This fall 4-H clubs will set-up exhibits at many of the area fairs and festivals including the Santa Rosa County Fair, the Jay Peanut Festival and the Pensacola Interstate Fair. These exhibits will display the wide variety of projects and activities in which 4-H clubs and members participate. Among the exhibits will be booths on rockets, horses, citizenship and etiquette. Viewers will find the exhibits both educational and enjoyable.

One of the most important reasons for 4-H clubs to do a club exhibit is to allow youth to work as a group to accomplish a goal. The 4-H members learn many important life skills as they work together, such as sharing, taking turns, considering others opinions and doing ones part.

The 4-H slogan "learn by doing" is put into action when a group of youth do a 4-H club exhibit. They begin with a plan, work individually to complete their assigned tasks and work collectively to put it all together. The skills that they learn may vary from carpentry and woodworking to construct the booth, to artistic as they make posters and arrange the overall display.

Once the exhibit is completed the youth stand back and admire the product of their group effort. They also cross their fingers and hope that the judges like it too, because the exhibits are judged. There is often an opportunity for 4-H clubs to earn a

little money through the premiums that are awarded for 4-H Club exhibits. The displays are judged and ribbons and monetary premiums are awarded. 4-H clubs use the money they earn for club activities and for community service projects.

But whether they receive the grand award or a participation ribbon the 4-H members are proud of their work and are glad to show what their 4-H club does. And most of all 4-H members have fun working together to complete their club booth exhibit.

4-H programs and activities in Santa Rosa County are open to boys and girls ages 5 to 18 regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex or handicap. For more information about 4-H contact Vickie B. Mullins, Santa Rosa County 4-H Coordinator, at 623-3868 or 939-1259, Ext. 1360 (for south county residents).